



## CONGRESSMAN JOHN GARAMENDI

# West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2010

### What does the West Coast Ocean Protection Act do?

The West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2010, H.R. 5213, will permanently prohibit offshore drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) in federal waters off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington.

### Why is the West Coast Ocean Protection Act needed?

40 years ago, California experienced an oil spill so toxic and ruinous it led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and the declaration of the first Earth Day. To safeguard the natural beauty, wildlife and ocean-based economies of California, Oregon, and Washington, we must impose a moratorium on offshore oil drilling.



### 37 Co-Sponsors (as of June 3, 2010):

- |                            |  |                                   |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Blumenauer, Earl, OR-3rd | • Napolitano, Grace, CA-38th                   | • Filner, Bob, CA-51st            |
| • Davis, Susan, CA-53rd    | • Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho, MP-Delegate | • Harman, Jane, CA-36th           |
| • Edwards, Donna, MD-4th   | • Sánchez, Linda, CA-39th                      | • Lee, Barbara, CA-9th            |
| • Eshoo, Anna., CA-14th    | • Speier, Jackie, CA-12th                      | • Lofgren, Zoe, CA-16th           |
| • Grijalva, Raúl, AZ-7th   | • Waters, Maxine, CA-35th                      | • Miller, George, CA-7th          |
| • Hirono, Mazie, HI-2nd    | • Watson, Diane, CA-33rd                       | • Roybal-Allard, Lucille, CA-34th |
| • Holt, Rush, NJ-12th      | • Baird, Brian, WA-3rd                         | • Schiff, Adam, CA-29th           |
| • Honda, Michael, CA-15th  | • Berman, Howard, CA-28th                      | • Schrader, Kurt, OR-5th          |
| • Inslee, Jay, WA-1st      | • Chu, Judy, CA-32nd                           | • Sherman, Brad, CA-27th          |
| • Larsen, Rick, WA-2nd     | • DeFazio, Peter, OR-4th                       | • Stark, Fortney Pete, CA-13th    |
| • Matsui, Doris, CA-5th    | • Dicks, Norman, WA-6th                        | • Thompson, Mike, CA-1st          |
| • McDermott, Jim, WA-7th   | • Farr, Sam, CA-17th                           | • Woolsey, Lynn, CA-6th           |
|                            |  | • Wu, David, OR-1st               |

**Environmental Groups Supporting the West Coast Ocean Protection Act:**

- American Cetacean Society - Monterey Bay Chapter
- California Coastal Protection Network
- California Gray Whale Coalition
- Earth Alert
- Environment America
- Environment California
- Environmental Caucus - California Democratic Party
- Environmental Protection Information Center
- Floodgate Farm - Edible Landscaping and Biodiversity
- Hands Across Our Beaches
- La Purisima Audubon Society
- Malibu Coalition for Slow Growth
- National Resources Defense Council
- North Coast Rivers Alliance
- Ocean Protection Coalition
- Oceana
- Oppose PXP Coalition
- Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
- Pacific Environment
- Pacific Seaweed Stewardship Alliance
- Planning and Conservation League
- Recreational Fishing Alliance
- Sierra Club
- Surfrider Foundation
- Village Laguna
- Western Alliance for Nature
- Wild Heritage Planners

## **History of Outer Continental Shelf Moratoria**

The Department of Interior's Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Strategy defines the Pacific Region as 4 areas: Washington/Oregon, Northern California, Central California, and Southern California.

### *Congressional Moratorium with respect to the Pacific Region*

- 1982 to 2008: Each year from 1982 to 2008, excluding 1986 and 1988, the Congress restricted spending of appropriated funds for the OCS oil and gas leasing and drilling activities in the Pacific Region.
- 2008: On September 30, 2008, the annual congressional moratorium on offshore oil and gas leasing and drilling expired.
- 2010: To this day, the Pacific Coast remains unprotected by any laws from future oil or natural gas exploration in federal waters.

### *Presidential Moratorium with respect to the OCS*

- 1990: President George H. W. Bush established an executive moratorium on new OCS oil and gas leasing and drilling until 2002.
- 1998: On June 12, 1998, President William J. Clinton extended the executive moratorium on new OCS oil and gas leasing and drilling until 2012.
- 2008: On July 14, 2008, President George W. Bush lifted the executive moratorium on new OCS oil and gas leasing and drilling.
- 2010: On March 31, 2010, President Barack Obama established an executive moratorium on new OCS oil and gas leasing in Bristol Bay area of the North Aleutian Basin in Alaska until June 30, 2017.
  - On the same day, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced the "Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Strategy" Five-Year Program. With respect to the Pacific Region, the Strategy concluded: "no sales are scheduled in the 2007-2012 Preliminary Revised Program" and "no areas are included for scoping in the 2012-2017 draft EIS."